

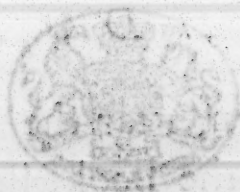
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ANOTHER

FRAGMENT. K



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Printed for A. POPE, near the *Royal Exchange*,
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OXFORD, and CAMBRIDGE.





The EDITOR'S P R E F A C E.

THE following learned, elaborate, curious and antient Fragment, was communicated to me by a celebrated Gomerian, Professor of the University of Combrigue, a few Days before the Publication of a certain Pamphlet, entitled and call'd, An Authentick Account of the extraordinary Proceedings, &c. Upon the Appearance of which Piece, the above Gentleman came and demanded his Manuscript again, and paid me for my Trouble, in taking off an Impression of ten thousand; laying me under an Obligation at the same Time to burn them, and not make them pass off as waste Paper. I accordingly threw them aside, but taking one of the Sheets up the other Day, my Conscience misgave me for con-

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senting to the destroying so much good Print and Paper, and shewing one of them to my Author, who told me they were of excessive Value on account of the Matter contain'd in them (which, by the Way, I knew nothing of) I was resolv'd at all Hazards, to wash my Hands of the Guilt of being accessory to the hiding them from the World any longer. I therefore made some search after the Professor but could not find him, to return him his Money: So being satisfied with the Justice of my Intention, in not wronging him, I throw this Work into the Hands of the Publick, not in the least doubting but they will think themselves as much oblig'd to me for selling it them, as I shall be to them for buying it; having allow'd it at so easy a Rate as Sixpence, to shew I have no mercenary View in this Affair.

ANOTHER



A N O T H E R

F R A G M E N T.

* * * * *

* * * * * No sooner had the poor old
 * * * * * Gentlewoman swallow'd the Pills, which she
 * * * * * had before vomited up, but she began to keck
 and strain most violently; it was, however,
 now impossible to discharge them the same
 Way again; *Tom* and *Mun* having taken such
 effectual Means to make them stay within her.
 It was, nevertheless, beyond all their Art and
 Quackery to make her digest them, for they
 were of so damn'd a Composition, that they
 remain'd (and it is thought ever will remain)
 a Clog, or, as the Poet says, *rudis indigestaque*
Moles upon her STOMACH. Her Sickness now
 began to increase hourly, which made her very
 B uneasy

uneasy under the Hands of her Doctors, but her ill State of Body had so much reduc'd her, that she could make no Efforts to disengage herself from them; which, however, could she have done, would have been now fruitless; the younger Part of the House being kept at a Distance, and forbidden ever to offer the least Assistance to her, and the major Part of the Elders, who were in a Capacity of doing it, brow-beaten or cajol'd by the Authority of *Tom* and *Mun*; who could not fail however, of being somewhat concern'd at the Indisposition of the old Lady, as the Mal-effects, or Non-succes of their Prescriptions, would be an Impeachment to their Judgment in Physick; and yet how to remedy the present Case, or to screen themselves from the flagrant Imputation of ignorant Quacks, and *Pretenders*, was a very difficult Point; as the Application of Water-gruel, and other Laxatives, to make their Pills pass off easy, would entirely ruin their Scheme, and rather be assistant to the present *Looseness* of the old Gentlewoman, than any way conducive to the End propos'd; which was, that of keeping her as tight as a Drum, upon which they might have a Rally, whenever they had a Mind to it, without being at the Trouble of bracing it.

Accordingly, they had a Consultation upon what was best to be done in the Affair; and finding, upon strict Examination, that their
 Physic

Phyfic had almost poison'd their Mother, and that the Effect of it would be a *lasting Disorder*, perhaps as long as she liv'd; her *Head* being prodigiously *weaken'd*, and all her other noble Parts considerably depriv'd of their former Force and Vigour: *Tom* and *Mun* therefore, with those of their Comrades who were admitted near her Person, agreed that nobody should come to her but themselves, and that they would give it out she was perfectly recover'd, and in a *very good State of Health*: But (fearing lest the younger Part of the House might not keep themselves in such close Bounds as they had done during their Mother's Sickness, but might get hallooing and making a Noise in the Court Yard, and about, which would be very prejudicial to the good Woman's Ease, and real Recovery) they resolv'd to keep a strict Eye over them, and to confine them, if possible, much closer than before, pretending a Fear of their Mother's Relapse.

The Scheme being, as above concerted, the Inspection of the young Ones, which indeed belong'd to him as one of the elder Brothers, was gladly undertaken by *Dun*, who wanted sadly to ingratiate himself with the *Head Brothers*, that he might come in snacks for the Honour of taking Care of the Old Lady, and her Family.

Now *Dun* was universally hated among the Boys, because he us'd to carry a great Stick in

his Hand to frighten them Home from their Play, making them come in by Daylight to go to Bed, or read good Books, for which Reason whenever his Back was turn'd, they would make Faces at him, and us'd to beryme him, calling out *boo! Doctor Proctor! — boo! Doctor Proctor*, and so on; for which, however, whenever he catch'd them, he *down'd with their Apple Carts*, and made them smart for it.

C H A P. XII.

* * * * *
 * * * * * Now, out of the great Number of Children in this Family, there were a select Company who had been educated for some Time at a noted *Free School*, some Miles distant, which was founded by one *Lady Betty*, a Gentlewoman of great Honour and Reputation in her Neighbourhood, and *Mistress* of the *Manor*; whose Name the said School Boys, out of Gratitude to their Benefactress, pay a particular Regard to.

It was at this School, that they learned to Read and Write, and had a Character given them for their Honesty. It is true, they were in general, a Parcel of unlucky Rogues; but as they

they minded to con their Lessons and thum'd their Books heartily, they might very well be forgiven a few mischievous Tricks, such as breaking a few Windows or so.

Now *Dun* had a mortal Antipathy to all this Clan in particular; because they were the most forward of any other to make Fun of him: Beside, happening one Day to reprimand one of them for his Irregularities, and to tell him he intended to be more severe for the future; what does *Pert* do (for that was his Name) but the first Opportunity he had of speaking to his Comrades, complained grievously against his Discipline,, telling them that *Jack Truant* and *Jemmy Holiday* were almost eat up with the Hip, and yet the old Dog took their *Marbles* away and would not let them divert themselves, nor let 'em *ride a Cockhorse* nor *drive a Hoop*, but call'd them in to read the *Pilgrim's Progress*, and other damn'd Trumpery, which was insufferable.

His Companions were no Ways behind hand with him, and accordingly unbosom'd themselves and repeated their Grievances at large; concluding in the End to regard him no longer: One of them swearing (for the Rogues would swear now and then) that he'd ride without asking Leave of any of them. A second cried, by *Goles*, he'd play at *Push-pin*, and *Taw*, for all any of the old Dons of
the

the House. A third, equally positive, swore so would he, and have *Sugar upon his Bread and Butter* whenever he pleased. A fourth said they were in the right on't, for he would not be impos'd on neither by any such old *Frigs*. A fifth join'd in their Sentiments, and in short most of the Company agreed together, and wish'd to G—d they had the flogging the Buttocks of all the whole Tribe of these *Jiggamarie* Rascals.

This Cabal in the End, however, prov'd of no Service at all to them, for some Body or other (as there will be to be found some poor, pitiful, mean-spirited Rascals among the best of Fellows) took Care to inform Old *Dun* of what had passed, who immediately upon hearing it, shook his Stick, and vow'd Revenge against the whole Body of them, and only wish'd for an Opportunity to shew the Veracity of his Intentions.

Now it happen'd soon after this, that the Anniversary of Lady *Betty's* Birth-day call'd most of them together, for they were all very careful to commemorate and celebrate this Day; and accordingly us'd to meet at a little Alehouse, hard by their Mother's House, where they us'd to have *Wigs and Ale*, and be as merry as so many Crickets.

It was with no little Pleasure that *Dun* heard of this *Merry-making*, at which he was resolv'd, at all Hazards, to satiate his Thirst
of

of Revenge upon the young Ones, and to shew his Brothers *Tom* and *Mun* what a clever Fellow he was, and how fit for the Trust and Business he was employ'd in.

The Day being come, he waited with great Impatience, expecting the Hour at which the little Ones should be in and a Bed, fearing all the while lest they should come home and disappoint him.

He therefore resolv'd to be as soon as possible with them, so went and set the Clock at home faster than usual, expecting it to strike, with *one Foot over the Threshold*, that he might have it to say, he had not left home before the *Clock struck*. And further, that nothing might be wanting to hasten the Execution of his Design, he called to his Man to carry his Staff for him. — Come along, *Fetch*, says he, come along; — if I don't take the Dogs napping now may I never *reprimand* again. — I hope to G—d I shall catch them all half drunk; and Egad if I do; — but come along, — come along, *Fetch*. — Come, — we have no Time to lose.

With all these Advantages he set forward the Moment he heard the Bell sound the first Time; tho' there are some who assert he was out of all Patience, and had gotten half Way before even his own Clock struck: But of this we will not be positive.

It

It is certain, however, he arrived (as Luck would have it) scarce a Minute too soon for him ; for the Youngsters were paying their Reckoning to come away just as he enter'd ; and were only delay'd by gathering a Half-penny a piece round for the Drawer.

Now there happen'd to be among them several of the elder Brothers, one of which was Chairman for the Night, to whom by good Rights assiduous *Dun* should have sent Word he was coming ; but, as that would have delay'd some little Time, which was of the utmost Consequence, he could not prevail upon his Impatience to do it.

He therefore burst into the Room without Ceremony, to the no little Disturbance of their Mirth and Jollity ; which as soon as he had done he endeavoured to frighten them all with his four Looks, but finding they were not so easily terrified as he expected, he turn'd pale with Malice and Disappointment ; and, knitting his Brows at the young Ones, he bid them be gone home to Bed.— I don't know, says he, what Business *Children* have *sotting* at an *Alehouse* at this Time of Night.—You won't be so eager to rise in the Morning.—But I'll —— he was here interrupted by *Snap*, the Chairman, who represented to him how remiss he had been in his Respect to himself, and that he should have acquainted him of his intended Visit.

To

To which he added, pray Mr. *Dun*, please to observe none of the Boys have drank too much.

Dun seeing what Mr. Chairman said was too true, was excessively angry at it, for he was in Hopes, as before has been observ'd, to have caught them *half-cock'd*, from which he would have had a fine Handle to have accus'd them before *Mun*.

The Boys seeing *Dun* so disconcerted, could not forbear laughing at him, and applauding every Thing that was said in their Favour by their Chairman; whom they call'd *a good Fellow*, *a jolly Heart*, for standing up in their Defence: Not that they themselves should have been afraid of him, had they been alone, if it was not for his great Stick, in fear of which they durst not say much to him; for that damn'd Stick was of great Force, and might be justly call'd indeed a *Knock-down Argument*.

However, what they dar'd they did; (for it was the greatest Pain in the World to restrain themselves on this Occasion) they accordingly laugh'd very heartily at the old *Codger*, (as they call'd him) made Faces at him as usual, and were not a little noisy in commending every Thing that was offer'd in their Favour: For they began now to banter him, which they did so gravely, that the poor old Fellow, who was somewhat short-

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fighted,

fighted, could not see whether they made Game of him or no : Some of them asking him to suck a Bit of sop'd Wig and taste a little Ale with them. Which Terms, however civil in themselves, were, artfully enough, flung to affect his good Temper. They took Care, however, to say nothing Criminal in his hearing, for fear of incurring the Displeasure of his great Stick ; a Circumstance which was more vexatious to him than had been the most opprobrious Terms and bare-fac'd Insults they could have put on him ; which would have afforded him sufficient Matter to execute the Vengeance his Resentment prompted him to.

He staid, upon this, some time, in Hopes to snap up something or other that he might make use of to their Prejudice ; but, finding the Rogues too wary and cunning for him, he tucked up his Tail in a Huff and trudg'd home, meditating on what he could do against them.

He had not gone far, before he stopt short, as if he had forgot something, and turning back to his Staff-bearer, pray *Fetch*, says he, did not those Rascals halloo when I first enter'd their Club-room ? Not that I heard, Sir, says *Fetch* ; and if they had, as I stuck close to your Heels, I must certainly have heard them.—Ay, but they did tho', replied *Dun* ; and I'll swear they did halloo,
or

or utter'd Words to the same Purpose.——
 And pray, continues he, whose Health was
 that they drank just before we came away;
 —— I have a confus'd Idea of some such
 Thing? —— O, Sir, answered *Fetch*, they
 drank to the *Master of Lady Betty's School*,
 who taught them all to read; — Doctor —
 Doctor —— O! *Doctor Nich* —— *Nich* ——
 I can't think of his Name. —— *Nick!* says
Dun, What, *Old Nick!* Why that's the
 Devil! —— Pretty Fellows indeed! Drink
 Healths to the Devil! Very pretty I must
 confess! —— Faith this will just do; ——
 drink Healths to the Devil. —— *Mun* shall
 hear of this I'm resolv'd. —— No, Sir, 'no,
 cried *Fetch*, (as soon as he could get a Word
 in) they did not drink to the Devil! — Ay,
 but they did tho', says *Dun*, and I'll swear
 they did too, *to the best of my Remembrance*.

If I may be so bold, Sir, says *Fetch*, to
 advise you, I would your Reverence would
 take care what you swear; the Scripture,
 you know, Sir, says, Swear not at all.——
 At this, *Dun* turning round in a great Pas-
 sion, Pray who are you, Sir, says he, that
 you presume to advise and counsel me? ——
 I beg your Reverence's Pardon, Sir, says
Fetch, it was only out of Tendernefs to your
 Person that I —— Well, well then, re-
 turns *Dun*, I tell you I will not swear it,
 but I will *alledge* it, which is not point
 blank

blank swearing; beside, tho' I did swear, I shall put in, or Words to that Purpose, and *to the best of my Remembrance*. — Now Words may be converted to any Purpose; if not *totidem Verbis*, as the learned Lord *Peter* has observ'd, yet *totidem literis*: And then my Remembrance may be as bad, or as good, as I please to have it: For, upon Occasion, a Man may forget what he knows to be true, and remember what he never heard in his Life-time, and there's a Salvo for that you know. — Indeed, Sir, says *Fetch*, I thought that. — Ay, indeed! you thought! I hope you will give me Leave to know. — But, I hope, Sir, cried *Fetch*, you are safe here: — *Phoo!* you Fool you, replied *Dun*, suppose I should not, am not I the oldest of all those who are younger than I? Is not that great Stick mine? Am not I *Hand* and *Glove* with *Tom* and *Mun*? What a Pox! Sure I may say and do as I please! Egad, and I will too; and I'll hie to *Mun* directly, and it shall go hard but I make some of them smoke yet. — Pray, do you know who that was that laugh'd in my Face, I don't remember ever to have seen him before? — No, Sir, cried *Fetch*, indeed I did not know him: — Ay well, replied *Dun*, it is not much Matter, there's enow of them; I can pick out one I warrant you.

They

They had said thus much, when they arriv'd at Home, where * * * *

* * * Ec.

* * * Ec.

* * * Ec.

* * * Ec.

C H A P. XIII.

THE Outcry and Disturbance in the House, made by the Children of *Lady Betty's* School, did not make the Old Gentlewoman their Mother a little uneasy, for they kept such a confounded Noise below Stairs, that it aggravated her Distemper, and made her in a manner delirious; inso-much that she often gave great Screams, and called out to know what was the Matter; upon which, several of the young Ones (taking the Opportunity of *Tom*, *Mun*, and *Dun*, being busy in Consultation concerning their Companions) ran up Stairs, where they saw their poor Mother in a very deplorable Situation indeed; and which they had no sooner saw, (after having been told she was perfectly recover'd) but some of them immediately return'd and acquainted their Comrades how finely they had been *bum-bug'd*

bug'd by those Rascals, *Tom*, and *Mun*; for that the Old Lady was now ten thousand Times worse than before.

This Piece of Information added fresh Fuel to their Resentment, and so far enrag'd them that nothing was heard but Curses and Exclamations against the Governors of the House; who, equally exasperated to find themselves thus expos'd, enter'd into a Combination to avenge themselves on their little Brothers, let the Event be what it would.

Tom, *Mun*, and *Dun*, accordingly came into their Mother's Apartment, and thrusting every Body else out, down they sat.

The Old Gentlewoman, desiring to know the Occasion of the Tumult and Disturbance, was answer'd, prithee Mother hold your Tongue, and don't be impertinently inquisitive, but try if you can't get a little Sleep, leave us to the Management of your Family. I warrant you, we'll do better for you than you can do for yourself, you know very well we have been dutiful Children to you, and have always had a great Regard for yourself, as well as for our Brothers, and — ay, ay, interrupted the Old Lady, very dutiful indeed! you have given me lately, very convincing Proofs of your Duty and Regard! — I am almost poison'd with your Officiousness, and the Lord knows whether or no I shall ever recover. — I tell you, I
will

will not have my little Boys impos'd on.—
Impos'd on, *Madam*, says *Mun*, ay, impos'd
on, I say, replied the Old Gentlewoman—
Don't frown at me, you Rascal, don't, nor
shew any of your *Airs*, says she, clenching
her Fist, (for she began now to be a little
angry) I hope to G—d I shall recover this
Bout, and if I do, I shall turn you out of
your Office, you, *Jack*, you, I assure you—

Pho,—pho, says *Mun*, you are lighthead-
ed, Goody, you don't know what you say;
if you are not easy, we must be oblig'd, out
of Love and Tendernefs to your Person, to
have you tied down in the Bed.

This Motion was highly approv'd of, and
accordingly, they order'd the Women Ser-
vants to fasten her down, and barbarously
insisted on their holding a Handkerchief to
her Mouth, for fear she should cry out, and
betray their inhuman Proceedings; in which
Situation we must leave the poor ill-treated
Lady in the greatest Agonies, and attend
Messieurs *Tom*, *Mun*, and *Dun*, into another
Apartment, where they withdrew to consult
on this Affair, * * * * &c.

* * * &c.

* * * &c.

* * * &c.

For my Part, says *Tom*, I would advise
you to horse them all, (I have several excel-
lent Rods in Piss) and whip their Buttocks
till

till you flea them, and make them as raw as a Piece of Beef.

Ay, but, says *Mun*, how shall we act with respect to the old Lady? who knows but she may expire under our Hands? Damn her, cried *Tom*, an headstrong Old Witch. Why won't she be rul'd by us? why won't she let us do as we please? Ay, ay, put in *Dun*, that would be right; it is but just that she should, and if I might counsel, I would advise you, *Mun*, to deal a little severely with the young Ones, and if you can but keep our Mother just alive, it will do—the more feeble she is, the less will she be able to contradict any Step you may be willing to take, and tho' she were dead and *damn'd*, I will swear and alledge it to the World, that she is alive, and *in a fair Way*.

What you advise, Brother *Dun*, says *Tom*, is in all Respects very good, for you know if she should get well again, she has it in her Power to call together a *Mob* of our other Brothers, who may ruin our Measures and Intentions.

Why——ay, that's the Thing, says *Mun*, all I want is to command, and direct, and order, and do as I please; and I see no Reason at all why or wherefore I should not, since Mr. *Standish*, our *Father in Law* approves very much of my Proceedings——I can't think why my Power should be stinted
by

by any of my younger Brothers; tho' they are old enough to have Beards on their Faces.

After a long Conference in this Manner, it was agreed that *Dun* should bring an Accusation against the chief of the Clan, and that they, with the whole Body of them, should come before *Mun* the next Day, and answer for their ill Behaviour as mention'd before, (now you are here to remark, that *Mun*, being the Governor of the House, was invested with all the Power of Mr. *Standish* himself, the Master of the Family, and could whip the Boys at any Time, whenever he pleas'd) that *Dun* should also take sufficient Care to lay an Accusation strong enough against them. I believe, says *Mun*, it would not be very improper that we should consult a little together, what you had best to say against them, *Dun*, I hope you have a very sufficient Charge; if you have not I shall be very sorry.

O ho! cried *Dun*, never do you fear me, never do you trouble yourselves about that, I warrant you I have enough to say against them, let me only put down my Deposition in black and white, and then you shall see: I find you don't know what a *Dabster* I am at a Deposition. If I don't make the prettiest Piece of Work on't you ever saw in your Life, may I never hope to see you re-

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primand

primand again, that's all, it is true, I was so vex'd, pleas'd, and perplex'd when I was among them, that I could observe little or nothing; but when I sit down to recollect, O, I am a Dog at Recollection! egad, well thought of, continued he, I had like to have forgotten the best Part of the Story: There was somebody laugh'd in my Face, laugh'd in my Face! Mr. *Mun*, it is true, I don't know who he is, but I'll send for two or three of them, and pick out him that I *like* best. As for your Parts, you need not concern, or give yourselves any farther Trouble about it than just to write out their Summons. I'll take care of the rest, and get the Accusation ready, I'll warrant you.

* * * &c.

* * * &c.

Dun now went to his own Apartment, and immediately dispatch'd a Messenger for one or two, not that he knew of or suspected one any more than another.

The First being come, he put several Questions relative to the Point, all which he answer'd with some Confidence, a Circumstance which affected *Dun* very much, who wanted every one to stand in fear of him; which, as he found the Youngster would not do, he provok'd him to be as impertinent as possible, and dismiss'd him; not without taking Notice of his ill Behaviour.

After

After this, the Second underwent the same Examination, with some added Severity; for he was to be the principal Offender: As *Dun* only dismiss'd the former, because he thought it would seem more as if he knew the Party offending, by denying one to be him, and insisting upon another; he therefore demanded of the Second, why, and wherefore he dar'd to take the Liberty of laughing, and insulting him in his Duty, adding, that he would *look over his Nose*, and *cut him as small as a Horse*; at which Threats the young One could not possibly forbear Smiling, upon which, *Dun* bounc'd into a violent Passion, and cried out, what do you make Game of me, you Dog? *I shall cut your Head off, and send your A—— a begging*; at this my young Gentleman burst into excessive Laughter, to the great Disappointment and Rage of *Dun*, who, now finding he could do no good with him, told him, it did not signify denying that he was the Party that had abus'd him, for it was very evident; indeed, Sir, says the Youngster, I can't possibly forbear laughing now, but upon my Word and Honour, I am not the Person you take me for.

What do you deny it still? says *Dun*; yes, replied the other, and ever will. — What! Will you deny it to *Mun*? says *Dun*, — yes, Sir, answered the other; — O,

very well then, Sir, answered *Dun*, you may if you please, but the Consequence will be, you'll be turn'd out of Doors young Gentleman, I can tell you but that. *De tout mon Cœur*, says the Youngster, the Comfort is, I can live without being beholden to you or my Mother either, and therefore you may use your Pleasure old Chuff, and so good bye to you.

* * * * *
 * * * * *
 * * * * * *Mun* * * * * * got in-
 to his great Chair, but the Lads were
 call'd into the large Hall, and were order'd
 to stand out before him and his head Bro-
 thers; when *Dun* began to hobble out his
 Deposition, which was indeed, as he had
 promis'd, the most extraordinary Thing ever
 before seen. His Accusations were levell'd
 against the Whole of the Company in ge-
 neral; and against *Snap*, *Catch*, and two or
 three others in particular. But, as 'tis possi-
 ble the World will not be easy to be depriv'd
 of so valuable a Piece, we shall give them
 the Substance of it.

Dun alledges firstly, *That they us'd him ill.*

Secondly, *That they us'd him very ill.*

Further, *That they us'd him ill indeed.*

Furthermore, *That they did use him ill.*

And,

And, *That they insulted him.*

Also, *That they did insult him.*

Besides, *That he was insulted by them.*

To this, *They sneer'd at him, or, Words to that Effect.*

Yet, *That he believ'd they did not sneer at him.*

Further, *That he believ'd they did sneer at him.*

Add to this, *That they laugh'd on the wrong Side of their Mouths, which, as he takes it, is a Distortion of Features, and nothing better than going mask'd.*

Lastly, *That they drank a Health to Old Nick, which, as he takes it, is the Devil; and also to their non Interruption by Duns.*

Further, *That somebody laugh'd in his Face, but who it was he did not then know, yet afterwards found it out by sending for two suspected Persons who denied it, which Piece of Behaviour he takes to be an Insult; and alledges that the first, or else the second, or else somebody else, is the very Man that abus'd him, and this he will swear to.*

No

No sooner was this Master-piece of Elocution deliver'd, but the *Heads* wriggled their *Tails* about, and shrugg'd up their Shoulders, in silent Commendation of so finish'd, so compleat, and so reasonable a Deposition; so elegantly express'd and yet so copiously insisted on. As to *Tom*, he could not contain himself, but came running to *Dun*, to *clap him on the Back*, and *spit in his Mouth*, to express his Approbation. On the other Side, nothing was heard from the young Ones, but a long continued Laugh in Derision of it. So widely did their different Interests part their Judgments!

C H A P. XIV.

AFTER *Dun* had read his Deposition, well, says *Mun*, do you hear, you young Rascals, what your Brother *Dun* has asserted against you? Do you hear? I say, Don't you deserve to be flogg'd now as long as a Man can stand over you? But come, Sirs, let's hear what you have to say for yourselves: Come, — come, pray let's hear.

Accordingly, *Catch*, one of the elder Brothers, stood out, and very boldly, (for he was a good Fellow, and not easily put out of Countenance) enter'd into the Merits of
the

the Cause, told *Mun* that their Mother had been rather oblig'd to them than otherwise, for taking Care of their younger Brothers; and, after having prov'd *Dun* to be a damn'd Lyar, and his whole Deposition to be a Falshood, concluded with desiring *Mun* to think himself and his Fraternity of Lady *Betty's* School entirely innocent of what was laid to their Charge.

Snap, after him, stood out, and to the same Effect defended himself, and prov'd the above Deposition to be a stupid, malicious Insinuation.

The rest of the Defendants, who were particularized in the Accusation, pleaded themselves innocent with a great deal of Art and Wit; for, tho' the Rogues knew themselves a little tardy, yet they knew too that it was their wisest Way, before *Mun*, to screen themselves if they could.

Mun having heard both Sides of the Question, paus'd some time, bid them go all about their Business, and told them he would consider on't.

Having all broken up, away post *Tom*, *Mun* and *Dun* to lay their Heads together, concerning the Affair. — Cries *Tom*, Damn the Rascals they are too hard for us with their Heads; but our Province lies in the Tails. — I have some excellent Rods in Pifs. — Ay, but, cries *Mun*, we must have some

some Colour of Justice.——Damn Justice, says *Tom*, what signifies Justice? Pray who is to call us to an Account? You know, Mr. *Standish*, is a little soft, and easily to be impos'd on; and then you know our Mother now is not in a Condition to gain-say our Proceedings:——That's true, says *Mun*, but now you talk about our Mother, let us step to see how she does.——We ought not to be absent long, lest some of our Brothers get tampering with her, and you know that might be of Consequence to us.

Away they ran, upon this, to their Mother's Room, where they saw her half out of Bed, and scarcely held in the Arms of her Women; such Havock did the Physick make which they had before given her; for it was now that it begun to work upon her; to help which the Hubbub and Clamour below Stairs did not a little contribute.

The Presence of *Tom*, *Mun* and *Dun*, rather aggravated than decreas'd the Violence of her Distemper, in so much that, without any Regard to Decency, she jump'd out of Bed, in her Smock, and was going to fall aboard them all three; but *Tom* stopt her short, and the others coming in, prov'd too strong for her, got her into Bed again; and having tied her with double Cords, and set twice or three times the Number of Nurses to attend her, left her, and went to proceed

ceed in the other Affair against their younger Brothers, whose Cause suffer'd not a little by this Increase of their Mother's Distemper; for it was immediately attributed by *Mun*, and the rest, to their Noise and Outcry.

They went in a furious Passion, therefore, down amongst them into the Hall, where they were all got together, rejoicing in the expected Success of their Defence, imagining that even *Mun* himself could not forbear giving the Cause against *Dun* almost whether he would or no.

But how sadly were they disappointed, when *Mun* getting his head Brothers about him, began to reprimand them, telling them, he had well weigh'd the Matter; and that for their Insolence to *Dun*, and their Irregularities and Disturbance to the great Distress and Aggravation of their poor Mother's Illness, the major Part of them should be flogg'd, and that *Catch* should be turn'd *Neck or nothing* out of Doors, and never be permitted to enter them again: Or, as it is in *Latin*,
—— *ab omni Gradu suscepto & suscipiendo.*

The Surprize and Confusion of all my young Gentlemen at this Instant cannot easily be imagined; one curs'd, another swore, a third call'd Names; in short, nothing was to be heard but *Anarchy and wild Uproar*. At length, *Catch*, a little recovering, represented how hard a Case it was, and ask'd for what Reason he in particular should suffer

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thus ; — not conscious of having said any Thing to give Offence.—'Twas not what you said, says a reverend head Brother, but you know you spoke it loud.—Sirrah, we'll have a Law made that shall set all your Voices to a proper Key ; and whoever dares to exceed *C, sol, fa*, or whatever Note we pitch for you, shall never have the Liberty of speaking again : So *pack up your Awls*, you Rascal, and be gone about your Business.—

Here *Catch* turn'd about to appeal to his other Brethren, when *Mun* got up, and told him to hold his Tongue, and not pretend to breed Dissentions there ; and fairly thrust him out of Doors.

While this was doing, in came two or three of their Mother's Women, one after another, to tell them that the old Lady was dying ; upon which they all scamper'd away, and found her so ill that 'tis thought she never will recover this Bout indeed.—

Mun immediately dispatched a Message to Mr. *Standish* ; and the enrag'd *Catch* swore by all that's good he'd post away to the great Hall that stands by Lady *Betty's* School, where sits a Bench of Justices and other great Men learned in the Laws of this Land, before whom he intends to lay the Case, and to prosecute his Brother *Mun* for turning him out of his Mother's House, where he has as much Right to remain as he has, so that 'tis thought there will be the Devil to pay yet.***

*** I wish to G--d the old Dons may be smok'd! * * * * *

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